

MIAMI COUNTY COUNCIL  
25 NORTH BROADWAY  
PERU, INDIANA 46970  
APRIL 19, 2011

Council President Ralph Duckwall called the meeting to order and led the group in prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance. All members are in attendance.

**COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

None

**MINUTES**

Councilman McAuliffe moved to approve the March 15th minutes. The motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Hunt and passed 7-0.

**ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS**

**PROSECUTOR**

Prosecutor Bruce Embrey came before the Council to request an additional \$4,500 out of Deferral funds for the Investigator. Mr. Embrey stated that the investigator has already made a tremendous difference in his office. Councilwoman Mull made a motion to allow and Councilman Wiles 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. The motion passed 6-1 (Donaldson).

**ITEMS FOR COUNCIL ACTION**

**BUDGETS**

Councilman McAuliffe made a motion to set Budget hearing for August 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>. The hours are set for 9a.m. to 4p.m. Councilman Wiles 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion and it passed 7-0. The Council requested having all budgets to them by June 9<sup>th</sup>.

**EXTENSION OFFICE**

Gary Horner informed the Board that the Office Manager at the Extension office has turned in her resignation as of April 28<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Horner is requesting he be allowed to fill that position.

Councilwoman Mull made a motion to allow and Councilman Hunt 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Commissioner Chairman Boyer said the Board of Commissioners support the request with the stipulation that the position be filled at a second Deputy pay. Mr. Horner said the other employee at the office had been there for 8 years and it would be difficult to bring in another employee making the same amount of money. Councilman Hunt said at the Highway a truck driver that has been there for 25 years would make the same as a new truck driver and the extension office has very good volunteers. Councilman Donaldson asked if they could get someone on a temporary basis for fair time. Mr. Horner reminded the Council that he and his staff made many cuts to their budget as the Council requested so that they wouldn't lose staff. Motion failed 3-4 (Duckwall, Wiles, Donaldson, Kendall).

**SHERIFF**

Sheriff Tim Miller addressed the Council informing them that he is in the process of filling the position of merit Deputy that they gave him permission in December to do. The Sexual Offender Officer resigned and he told the Board that he would like to take a Jail Deputy and move to that position (and not fill the jail deputy position). He has divided up the work previously done by that position and therefore would like to reduce the salary attached to it from \$32,335 to \$30,874 for a savings of \$1,461. However, he would like to adjust the IDAC Supervisor \$463 and the warrants clerk (who also absorbed some of the responsibilities) \$463 (total of \$926). Sheriff Miller estimated the savings overall for this year would be approximately \$45,077.

Councilman McAuliffe asked the Sheriff if he could fill both positions with a jailer and refill those positions because the Council had given him 6 jailers last year. The Sheriff is willing to try doing without one jailer, unless the inmate population goes up, but feels it would be very difficult to manage with two empty positions and continue holding DOC and other Counties inmates.

President Duckwall asked the group if they wanted to decide now or table it. Councilman Wiles made a motion to approve (because it is a matter of Public Safety) and Councilwoman Mull 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Motion passed 4-3 (Duckwall, Hunt, Donaldson).

#### **REQUEST FOR AUDIENCE**

Jim Tidd, MCEDA, updated the Council on the Hanger 200 project. Mr. Tidd the USDA, who has approved a loan for the project, is requesting an ordinance that states the loan will be secured by C.E.D.I.T. funds in the event that the rental payment is in default. After some discussion, the Council set a special meeting for Monday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> at 4:00 to approve the ordinance. The Auditor will place an advertisement that the ordinance will be reviewed and acted upon.

#### **COMMUNITY OF MIAMI**

The Board of Commissioners updated the Council on the sewer project for the Community of Miami. On Monday, April 18<sup>th</sup>, the Board of Commissioners signed a "Local Resolution Approving the Plan" for Miami.

#### **CLERK**

Tawna Leffel asked for clarification of an ordinance passed by the Council at the February meeting regarding the appropriation of all funds. Ms. Leffel would like to purchase a scanner for her office with her perpetuation fund money and when she went to the Commissioners, she was told she would have to come to the Council for the appropriation. It was determined that she would have to buy it out of her supplies or come back next month for the appropriation.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

None

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Randy Hileman appreciated being made to feel welcomed to the meeting and wanted to let the Council know he respects their diligence in matters instead of rubber stamping everything. Mr. Hileman asked if local companies would be able to bid on work with the Hanger 200 project and were Miami County residents going to be given first consideration for available jobs. Mr. Tidd stated that they were trying to make the bidding process as open and competitive as possible hiring is at the discretion of the employer.

Mr. Hileman has heard that there is a patrol officer in a pickup truck and what do we know about it. The Sheriff told him it was not one of the County officers.

A motion to adjourn was made by Councilwoman Mull. The motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman McAuliffe and passed 7-0.

Respectfully submitted

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Jane Lilley  
Miami County Auditor